Transportation of salt by rakes

5228. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have received any proposal from the State Government during the last three months for transportation of salt from Santalpur, Adesar area to Palanpur Junction by broadgauge rakes;

(b) how much demand during the last three months have been made for the broadgauge rakes transhipment;

(c) whether Government had given any assurance a month ago to the producer of salt that this problem would be solved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what is the reason and by what time this will be solved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A total demand of 5520 MG wagons were registered at Santalpur-Adesar area during January-March, 2003 for loading in MG section and transhipment at Palanpur into BG wagons. Out of which demands for 240 MG wagons were withdrawn.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Santalpur-Adesar area is on Gandhidham-Palanpur Meter Gauge section of Western Railway. Western Railway has undertaken conversion of Gandhidham-Palanpur Section from Meter Gauge to Board Gauge.

Dhar-Jhabua rail line

5229. SHRI KATLASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government announced construction of Dhar-Jhabua rail line in 1998 in a public meeting in Jhabua;

(b) if so, whether the survey of the proposed line has been completed, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the funds earmarked in the 2003-2004 Rail budget for the purpose;

(d) the steps being taken to bring this line in National Rail Development Plan to bring this tribal belt on rail map; and

(e) by when, the line is likely to be completed and commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIBANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (e) As per available records, no such announcement has been made. However, Godhra-Indore, Dewas-Maksi new line is an ongoing project which includes rail line between Dhar and Jhabua. Dewas-Maksi new line has already been completed. The final location survey for the balance portion from Godhra to Indore has been completed and. work is being planned to be taken up. An outlay of Rs. 20 crore has been provided for the project during 2003-2004. The work would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Staff and space for Hajipur zone

5230. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAI AHI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate office space and staff is available at ECR zone, Hajipur;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several offices of ECR are operating from Patna; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTACHARYA) :(a)Yes, Sir, By and large, both space and staff are available at Hajipur .

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Temporary leased accommodation has been taken at Hajipur and Pataa for off Ime actmties till completion of office building expansion work at Hajipur, which is in progress.